THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) As per the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM) under the Chairmanship of Prof. C.N.R. Rao, five Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) have been established at Kolkata, Pune, Mohali, Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram. At present, there is no proposal to establish any more IISERs in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A suitable reply has been sent to the Chief Minister of Gujarat stating that at present there is no proposal to establish any more IISERs in the country.

World Bank report on secondary education

1770. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that our secondary education is in shambles;

(b) whether Government has taken cognizance of the World Bank report recently published stating that India is behind China, Brazil, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in secondary education; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken to improve the quality of education at all levels?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The World Bank in its report 'Secondary Education in India: Universalizing Opportunity' (January, 2009) has mentioned that India's gross enrolment rate at the secondary level of 40% is below that of countries in East Asia and Latin America. The report also states that countries having lower per capita income than India such as Vietnam and Moldova have much higher GER Bangladesh with a far lower per capita income has roughly the same GER at the secondary level.

(c) Central Government recognizes the need to make substantial improvement to the secondary education sector. A new centrally sponsored scheme called "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan" has been launched to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality. It, *inter alia*, seeks to ensure availability of secondary school within reasonable distance of every habitation and to improve quality of education imparted at secondary stage by conforming all schools to prescribed norms. An outlay of Rs.20,120 crore has been provided for this scheme during the Eleventh Plan. The total allocation for the secondary education sector has also been increased from Rs.4,325 crore in the Tenth Plan to Rs.53,550 crore in the Eleventh Plan.

Awarding of MCA and BCA degrees by IGNOU

1771. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether students are pursuing simultaneous education in BCA and MCA in IGNOU and some of them have even passed all papers of MCA;

(b) whether some students have not cleared all papers of BCA inspite of more than nine/ten attempts;

(c) if so, the reasons for IGNOU not awarding degrees of MCA and BCA to such students like that in Delhi University which is awarding degree of Graduation to students in such eventuality; and

(d) the steps being taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) As per information provided by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), it offers BCA-MCA in integrated mode with modular approach where, BCA-MCA programme are integrated in order to provide flexibility to the students. Student cannot pursue courses of BCA and MCA concurrently. However, students are allowed to give examination of leftover courses of BCA/MCA alongwith the current courses of BCA/MCA which student is pursuing.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per information provided by IGNOU, there is no provision to award degree of MCA and BCA without clearing all the courses.

(d) The University has decided to accommodate such students by allowing them of old syllabus of MCA and BCA to clear their left-out courses till December 2010 Term-end-Examination. Moreover, any student who could not complete the programme can take readmission to same programme and avail facility of credit transfer.

SC/ST students enrolled in Navodaya Vidyalayas

1772. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of male/female students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) enrolled in Navodaya Vidyalayas during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09, State-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to enhance the existing percentage of enrolment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) A statement showing the number of boys and girls belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes enrolled in Navodaya Vidyalayas during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 in each State/UT is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir. Seats are reserved in Navodaya Vidyalayas for children from Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in proportion to their population in the concerned district, but not less than 15% for SC and 7.5% for ST.